



Administrative and Customer Services Division

# *Data Developments*

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
Washington, DC 20233

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XXIII-4

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**Current Population Survey, September 1996: Food Security Supplement** *[machine-readable data file] / conducted by the Bureau of the Census for the Food and Consumer Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. -Washington: Bureau of the Census [producer and distributor], 2000.*

## **Type of File:**

Microdata; unit of observation is individuals within housing units.

## **Universe Description:**

The universe consists of all persons in the civilian noninstitutional population of the United States living in households. The probability sample selected to represent the universe consists of approximately 57,000 households.

## **Subject-Matter Description:**

Data are provided on labor force activity for the week prior to the survey. Comprehensive data are available on the employment status, occupation, and industry of persons 15 years old and over. Also shown are personal characteristics such as age, sex, race, marital status, veteran status, household relationship, educational background, and Hispanic origin.

The CPS Food Security Supplement was conducted by the U.S. Bureau of the Census for the Food and Consumer Service (FCS) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Supplement questions were asked of all interviewed households, as appropriate. The supplement was intended to research the full range of severity of food insecurity and hunger as experienced in U.S. households.

Based on this research, the FCS has developed comprehensive food security measurement scales and food security status indicators, which are described in Attachment 3, Overview - Food Security Supplement.

**Please be advised, however, that responses to any of the supplement's individual items are not, taken alone and in themselves, meaningful measures of food insufficiency, food insecurity, or hunger, and should not be used as such.**

## **Geographic Coverage:**

States, regions and divisions are identified in their entirety. Within confidentiality restrictions; indicators are provided for consolidated metropolitan statistical areas (CMSA), 173 selected metropolitan statistical areas (MSA), 69 selected primary metropolitan statistical areas (PMSA), 217 counties, and 41 central cities in multi-central city metropolitan statistical areas or primary metropolitan statistical areas. Also within confidentiality restrictions, indicators are provided for metropolitan/nonmetropolitan, central city/balance metropolitan, MSA/CMSA size and MSA/PMSA size.

**Technical Description:**

File Structure: Rectangular.

File Size: 135,479 logical records; 1,086 character logical record length.

File Sort Sequence: State rank by CMSA/MSA rank by household identification number by line number.

**Reference Materials:**

*Current Population Survey, September 1996: Food Security Supplement Technical Documentation.* Documentation contains this abstract, including ordering information, overview, definitions, questionnaire facsimiles, code lists, and record layouts of the file. One copy accompanies each file order. Additional copies are available from Marketing Services Office, Customer Services Center, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233.

**File Availability:**

The file may be ordered from Marketing Services Office, Customer Services Center using the Customer Services' [order form](#). It is available on 9-track tape reel (ASCII or EBCDIC, labeled or unlabeled, 6250 bpi). The file can be made available on IBM 3480 compatible tape cartridge or CD-R (compact disc-recordable) in ASCII format. Also, it is available on the Internet at <http://www.bls.census.gov/cps>